Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Claims 1-6, 8-13 and 15-20 are pending in the application. Claims 5, 12 and 19 have been amended. Claims 7, 14 and 21 have been cancelled.

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Original) A method of video coding the movement of a face from a sequence of images comprising:

selecting a limited number of feature points from an image of the face whose movement is to be video coded;

estimating spatio-temporal rates of change in intensity at the selected feature points using at least two images from the sequence;

estimating the translation and rotation of the face using the feature points and using the estimated spatio-temporal rates; and

coding the estimated translation and rotation.

2.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein prior to selecting the feature points, for a particular image, the face is approximated using triangular planar patches.

3.   (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein a feature point is selected from each planar triangular patch.

4.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the translation and rotation of the face are estimated from the feature points and from the estimated spatio-temporal rates using a least mean square estimation method.

5.   (Currently Amended) A method of video coding the movement of a head from a sequence of images comprising:

coding the head from at least one of the images based, at least in part, on a limited number of selected feature points employing a three-dimensional based coding technique to produce a three-dimensional (3D) model; and

estimating the movement of the head in other images of the sequence using the 3D model of the head, wherein the movement of the head is estimated as translations and rotations based at least in part on estimates of spatio-temporal rates of change in intensity at the selected feature points.

6.   (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the movement of the head is estimated by treating the 3D model of the head as a rigid body in the sequence of images.

7.   Cancelled.

8.   (Original) A system comprising:

an imager; and a computing platform;

said imager and computing platform being coupled to communicate electronically;

wherein said computing platform being adapted so that, in operation, the movement of a face from a sequence of images is coded by:

selecting a limited number of feature points from an image of the face whose movement is to be video coded;

estimating spatio-temporal rates of change in intensity at the selected feature points using at least two images from the sequence;

estimating the translation and rotation of the face using the feature points and using the estimated spatio-temporal rates; and

coding the estimated translation and rotation.

9.   (Original) The system of claim 8, wherein said computing platform is adapted so that, in operation, the movement of a face from a sequence of images is further coded by, prior to selecting the feature points, for a particular image, approximating the face using triangular planar patches.

10.   (Original) The system of claim 9, wherein said computing platform is adapted so that, in operation, the movement of a face from a sequence of images is further coded by selecting a feature point from each planar triangular patch.

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11.   (Original) The system of claim 8, wherein said computing platform is adapted so that, in operation, the movement of a face from a sequence of images is further coded by estimating the translation and rotation of the face from the feature points and from the estimated spatio-temporal rates using a least mean square estimation method.

12.   (Currently Amended) A system comprising:
         an imager; and a computing platform;
         said imager and computing platform being coupled to communicate electronically;
    wherein said computing platform being adapted so that, in operation, the movement of a head from a sequence of images is represented by:
         coding the head from at least one of the images based, at least in part, on a limited number of selected feature points employing a three-dimensional based coding technique to produce a three-dimensional (3D) model; and
         estimating the movement of the head in other images of the sequence using the 3D model of the head, wherein said computing platform is adapted so that, in operation, the movement of the head is estimated as translations and rotations based at least in part on estimates of spatio-temporal rates of change in intensity at the selected feature points.

13.   (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein said computing platform is adapted so that, in operation, the movement of the head in other images of the sequence is estimated by treating the 3D model of the head as a rigid body in the sequence of images.

14.   Cancelled.

15.   (Original) An article comprising: a storage medium, said storage medium having stored thereon instructions, said instructions, when executed by a computing platform, resulting in the movement of a face from a sequence of images being coded by:
         selecting a limited number of feature points from an image of the face whose movement is to be video coded;
         estimating spatio-temporal rates of change in intensity at the selected feature points using at least two images from the sequence;
         estimating the translation and rotation of the face using the feature points and using the estimated spatio-temporal rates; and

coding the estimated translation and rotation.

16.   (Original) The article of claim 15, wherein said instructions, when executed, further result in, prior to selecting the feature points, for a particular image, approximating the face using triangular planar patches.

17.   (Original) The article of claim 16, wherein said instructions, when executed, further result in selecting a feature point from each planar triangular patch.

18.   (Original) The article of claim 15, wherein said instructions, when executed, further result in, estimating the translation and rotation of the face from the feature points and from the estimated spatio-temporal rates using a least mean square estimation method.

19.   (Currently Amended) An article comprising: a storage medium, said storage medium having stored thereon instructions, said instructions, when executed by a computing platform, result in the movement of a head from a sequence of images being represented by:
        coding the head from at least one of the images based, at least in part, on a limited number of selected feature points employing a three-dimensional based coding technique to produce a three-dimensional (3D) model; and
        estimating the movement of the head in other images of the sequence using the 3D model of the head, wherein said instructions, when executed, result in the movement of the head being estimated as translations and rotations based at least in part on estimates of spatio-temporal rates of change in intensity at the selected feature points.

20.   (Original) The article of claim 19, wherein said instructions, when executed, further result in the
        the movement of the head in other images of the sequence being estimated by treating the 3D model of the head as a rigid body in the sequence of images.

21.   Cancelled.

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